

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The object of the present invention is to provide a constant flow rate expansion valve which is sufficiently reduced in leakage of refrigerant.~~ A constant flow rate expansion valve includes a refrigerant passage having a fixed flow path cross-sectional area smaller than that of a refrigerant inlet, a differential pressure control valve for controlling the differential pressure ( $P1 - P2$ ) between an inlet pressure  $P1$  and an intermediate pressure  $P2$  generated by refrigerant flowing through the refrigerant passage to be constant, and a solenoid capable of setting the differential pressure by the value of an electric current externally supplied. In the differential pressure control valve, a piston and a valve element integrally formed with each other sense the differential pressure ( $P1 - P2$ ), change a gap between the valve element and a valve seat such that the differential pressure is held constant, and adiabatically expand the refrigerant at the gap. ~~Since the piston is fluidly isolated from the refrigerant inlet by a diaphragm, it is possible to completely prevent internal leakage of refrigerant via a sliding portion of the piston.~~